[31st October 1931

Abolition of all allowances and certain posts in other provinces.

* 394 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact and whether the Government are aware that the Governments of Bombay, Assam, Bihar and United Provinces have recommended all allowances to be abolished in the case of all gazetted officers as a first measure of retrenchment;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the aforesaid provincial Governments have also recommended the abolition of the posts of Superintending Engineers, Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, Deputy Directors of Public Health, Deputy Directors of Public Instruction, and such other intermediary posts, in addition to the reduction in the strength of several other cadres; and

(*c*) if the information asked for in (*a*) and (*b*) is not in the possession of the Government, whether they propose to call for the same and lay it on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information.

(*c*) The information will be obtained and the Government will further consider, on obtaining it, the suggestion made.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether the Government have since obtained information? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—" No, Sir."

Mr. Basheer Ahmeed Sayeed:—" May I know if they have taken steps to get it? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—" Yes, we have written to ask for the information."

Question of abolition of certain intermediary posts.

* 395 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have under consideration the question of abolishing intermediary posts, such as, the Superintending Engineers, Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, Deputy Directors of Public Health, Deputy Directors of Public Instruction, etc., as a measure of retrenchment;

(*b*) whether proposals on the above lines were placed before the Retrenchment Committee; and

(*c*) if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No.

(*c*) Under the procedure prescribed, the Retrenchment Committee is examining the expenditure of each department on its merits and the question whether the posts mentioned should be retained or not must depend on the nature of the work to be done in each department.